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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Muñiz et al.

Serial No.: 10/018,738

Filing Date: December 17, 2001

Title: COMPOSITION AND METHOD FOR DETECTING AND EARLY
DIFFERENTIATED COUNTING OF GRAM-NEGATIVE MICROORGANISMS

Art Unit: 1651

Examiner: V. Afremova

Attorney Docket No.: LEXSA P-25

Via Facsimile Telephone: (703) 872-9306Commissioner for Patents
Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ELECTION IN RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Dear Sir:

This is an Election for the above-identified application in response to the
Restriction Requirement mailed on May 17, 2003. The response date was set for
Saturday, June 17, 2003, which allows for a reply deposited on Monday, June 19, 2003.

Applicants hereby elect **Group I** (claims 1-18) for further prosecution. Please
cancel claims 19 and 20.

Date: May 19, 2003Respectfully submitted
LACKENBACH SIEGEL LLPThomas Blankinship
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FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

Date: May 19, 2003

OFFICIALTo: Examiner V. Afremova
ART UNIT 1651

Facsimile No.: (703) 872-9306

From: Thomas Blankinship

Pages (including cover sheet): 2

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 10/018,738 for
**COMPOSITION AND METHOD FOR DETECTING AND EARLY
DIFFERENTIATED COUNTING OF GRAM-NEGATIVE
MICROORGANISMS**

Atty. Ref.: LEXSA P-25

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the attention of
Examiner V. Afremova of Art Unit 1651 at Technology Center 1600 Before Final Official
Facsimile Number (703) 872-9306 on May 19, 2003 in accordance with 37 CFR 1.6(d).

May 19, 2003
Date



Thomas Blankinship

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